

1.15 Exploration of the Ethos Statement for Anglican Schools

The Anglican Ethos Statement is a primary guiding document that outlines the form that schools in the Anglican tradition should take. The major features are included below.

Notice that there are seven points that form the Anglican Ethos Statement.

Individuals

1. Choose two statements on which to concentrate.
2. Read the statement and then complete the questions.

Groups

1. Allocate one topic per group.
2. The groups read the statement they have been allocated and discuss the question that follows.

A ANGLICAN SCHOOLS

Are firstly Christian Schools

In their day to day life Anglican schools should live out their faith in a creating and redeeming God. They should provide an environment in which young people have an opportunity to develop a personal relationship with God, through Jesus. They should enliven the Gospel message of forgiveness, reconciliation, mission and loving service to God and our neighbour. The experience of sharing in the life of this community is itself an important part of Christian education quite apart from the formal content learned in the classroom.

Q: Identify ways that your school community actively seeks to express a faith in a creative God

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ANGLICAN SCHOOLS

Celebrate the contribution of the Mother Church to the wider political, social, economic and artistic life of our culture

The Anglican Church of Australia has grown out of the Church of England. As such, it has a long tradition of working within the heart of western culture in the broadest and most comprehensive sense. Our schools will be at the centre and not at the fringe of our culture.

Q: In what ways does your school function at the centre of Australian culture?

C ANGLICAN SCHOOLS SHOULD BE CHARACTERISED BY:

Appreciation of diversity

The Anglican Church in its long history has come to value diversity as a positive good and a distinguishing feature of a civilised community. Anglican schools should enliven such appreciation of diversity and acceptance and the care ethic implicit in this respect for others.

Q: Identify ways in which your school community overtly promotes and values diversity.



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D ANGLICAN SCHOOLS SHOULD BE CHARACTERISED BY**High respect for intellectual endeavour**

The teaching / learning ethic will show itself in hard work, intellectual rigour and openness to ideas and debate.

Q: Describe an occasion when there was healthy debate in your classroom.

E ANGLICAN SCHOOLS SHOULD BE CHARACTERISED BY**Commitment to tradition and dignity within school worship**

The Anglican tradition of renewing ancient forms and sacraments to meet modern needs will be evident in the way the school community worships.

Q: What might this tradition add to the life of a modern school student?



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F ANGLICAN SCHOOLS SHOULD BE CHARACTERISED BY
Commitment to tradition and dignity within school life

Anglican schools will use the richness of symbol, story and ceremony to promote their values and order their lives.

Q: Describe one way that Anglican symbol, story or ceremony promote the values of your school.

G ANGLICAN SCHOOLS SHOULD BE CHARACTERISED BY
Sense of social responsibility

The service ethic and a commitment to social justice will be seen in the willingness of Anglican communities to offer themselves to serve God and God's people in the wider community as critical participants.

Q: In what ways could your school contribute to the wider community

